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U.S. voices 'concern' to PLO

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has formally notified the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) of its "serious concern" over an Israeli strike last week in southern Lebanon. The State Department said Wednesday Robert Redman, the U.S. ambassador to Tunisia, registered the U.S. "view" — meaning, in Tunis with Habib Bellou, a PLO representative — department spokesman Charles E. Redman said. Israel has charged five members of the PLO were attempting to infiltrate when they were kidnapped and killed Saturday in a "security zone." Israel has established security belt buffer in southern Lebanon. According to the PLO of "territory," the Israeli government took the position the United States should have no contact with the PLO while it was based on a recommendation of Chairman Yasser Arafat. Redman declined to give details of the meeting. The PLO considered the incident an act of terrorism and asked the American to give details of Redman's discussion with Bellou. "The American did not give a comment on these meetings," Redman said.

# Jordan Times

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## King voices pride in Armed Forces

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, Wednesday called at the Headquarters of the Fourth Royal Armoured Division and met with its commanders and officers who briefed him on the unit's training programmes and other activities.

The King made a brief speech to the troops on the current Arab and international affairs and Jordan's efforts to achieve solidarity among Arab countries.

The monarch voiced deep confidence and pride in the role played by the Armed Forces and its capabilities, skill and performance.

The King was accompanied on the visit by Royal Court Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Talib and senior army officers.



His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday addresses officers of the Fourth Royal Armoured Division (Petra photo)

## Boeing crashes on Azores, 144 killed

LISBON, Portugal (Agencies)

A Boeing 707 aircraft crashed Wednesday into a mountain on the mid-Atlantic Azores Islands, killing all 144 people on board, a Portuguese news agency reported.

The aircraft, carrying 137 passengers and seven crew members, crashed around 1430 GMT into Pico Alto, a mountain on Santa Maria, said Guadalupe Cordeiro, dispatcher at Santa Maria airport.

The aircraft was flying from Italy to the Dominican Republic when it crashed into the 547-metre mountain, said an official at the rescue services base in Santa Maria.

Portuguese naval vessels with medical teams were steaming to

island of Terceira. Two bodies have already been recovered and there appear to be no survivors..." said a local official helping with rescue operations. "The debris is spread out over a large area."

"Local people said they saw the plane crash into a mountain side and catch fire about seven kilometres from the airport," the official said.

There was no word on the nationality of the passengers on the plane, which belonged to Independent Air, a U.S. company based in Atlanta, Georgia.

Portuguese naval vessels with medical teams were steaming to

mainland and communications with the island airport.

Local governments on the nearby island of Miguel said the pilot had landed the airport to prepare for an emergency landing shortly before the crash.

The U.S. armed forces have a big air and naval base at Lajes on the island of Terceira, north of Santa Maria.

The last major Portuguese air accident occurred years ago when a plane crashed on the island of Madeira about 800 kilometres southwest of Lisbon, and killed more than 120 people.

Owen Dickerson, executive vice-president of Independent Air, said from his office in Smyrna, Tennessee, that his company flew charter flights for civilians.

He said a company plane had been bound for Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic, but he had no details on the accident.

The worst commercial airline disaster in 1988 occurred on July 3 when U.S. forces in the Gulf accidentally destroyed an Iranian Airbus, killing 290 people.

A Pan Am Boeing 747 was blown up over Scotland Dec. 21, killing 297 passengers and crew and 11 people on the ground.

## Speculation, manipulation behind unwarranted foreign exchange fluctuation

## Violations prompt closure of moneychanging firms

AMMAN (Petra) — The government

Wednesday revoked the licenses of all non-bank exchange firms and closed down their offices after seizing their books and records in a move against violations of regulations and tampering with the national economy.

An order issued by the military

governor also froze bank accounts of moneychangers so as to safeguard the interests of other parties and that the seized books and records of moneychangers would be duly examined.

The order was accompanied by a statement which noted that Jordan had been facing certain conditions that affected the region and led to failure by Arab countries to fulfil their financial obligations to the Kingdom under the 1978 Baghdad summit resolutions.

This resulted in a decline in Jordan's foreign currency reserves and forced the country to

adopt a set of economic measures designed to control spending and rationalise the use of foreign currency in line with national priorities.

In conformity with the mea-

sures, the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) maintained contacts with banks, other financial institutions

and moneychangers in a bid to ensure their cooperation in stabilising the Jordanian dinar's rate of exchange, to guarantee the flow of foreign currency into the Kingdom with a view to serving the higher national interests and to prevent any currency speculation and other manipulations that would harm country's economic security, the statement said.

These moves, it said, had led to stability in the dinar's rate of exchange since the banks and financial institutions adhered to the regulations, which continued to be reassessed. But, the statement said, moneychangers were violating the regulations and agreements despite warnings from the CBJ and continued to conduct illegal practices and irresponsible actions.

The CBJ established beyond doubt that the moneychangers' action prompted the unwarranted rise in the exchange rates of foreign currencies in relation to the dinar, the statement said. The Central Bank informed the Jordanian citizen to deal with foreign currency through banks and financial institutions and protect the citizen from exploitation.

Violators warned

Minister of Interior Rajai Da-

tion of the rate of exchange of the dinar in a bid to acquire monopoly on foreign currency dealings and to gain unlawful profits and tamper with the country's economic security, according to the statement.

Demand and supply

A comprehensive study of the whole situation in all its aspects found that the Kingdom's reserves of foreign exchange through the banking system were sufficient to meet the need of all banks and more, the statement said. It was also found that the fluctuations in the rate of exchange of the dinar is not related to the forces of demand and supply as much as it is linked to speculations on the part of moneychangers, it said.

The closure of the

moneychanging firms, the statement said, is intended to restore stability to the Kingdom's monetary situation and create a free and responsible atmosphere for the Jordanian citizen to deal with foreign currency through banks and financial institutions and protect the citizen from exploitation.

Authorities Wednesday close down non-bank moneychangers in downtown Amman (Photo by Yusef Al 'Alias)

jani said in a statement issued later that violators of the military governor's order would be arrested and tried under martial law and be imposed with the strictest penalty. The minister said anyone caught tampering with the Kingdom's economic security and financial and monetary stability would face the strictest measures.

Press briefing

Explaining the background of the decision to journalists at a meeting held at the Information

Ministry, CBJ Governor Hussein Al Qasem said the moneychangers "abused the freedom given to them and conducted operations similar to those of commercial banks."

"They maintained accounts in foreign banks for illegal purposes and thus violated CBJ regulations," he added. He said moneychangers facilitated smuggling of money outside the country, financed undeclared imports and settled invoices abroad, thus being evasion of customs duties and income tax.

The prison holds Palestinians detained for "anti-Israeli activi-

## Morocco, Algeria signal new era of cooperation

FEZ, Morocco (R) — King Hassan and President Chadli Benjedid of Algeria agreed

Wednesday to build a gas pipeline across North Africa to Europe, symbolising a new era of cooperation between the former rivals.

The accord was timed to mark the end of a three-day visit to Morocco by Benjedid which both sides said marks more than a decade of tension over the Western Sahara where Algeria has backed Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco for independence.

They also agreed a joint government committee would meet next month to finalise other cooperation plans delegated to ministers after exhaustive talks by the heads of state.

The Moroccan press — in the past a fierce critic of Algeria — has hailed the visit as historic, paving the way for wider regional cooperation ahead of a peaceful solution and honour.

able settlement," it said.

The dispute is now in the hands of the United Nations which plans to organise a referendum in the former Spanish colony, although most analysts believe there will be some sort of deal ahead of the vote.

There was no reference to the conflict in the joint statement.

King Hassan and Benjedid will be joined in the ancient Moroccan capital of Marrakesh by the leaders of the other Maghreb states of Tunisia, Libya and Mauritania and are expected to agree a form of union.

Wherever Benjedid went in

Morocco during this week's visit he was met by cheering crowds, mounted berber warriors, folk dances and singers in traditional dress.

The pipeline project, due to be completed in 1995, is of extreme importance to both

countries and was seen as one of the factors behind Algeria's decision to re-establish diplomatic ties with Morocco last May.

It will carry natural gas about 500 kilometres from the Hassi R'mel gas field in Algeria to the Moroccan frontier at Oujda, and then about 1,500 kilometres across Morocco to Tangier on the Straits of Gibraltar and then into Spain.

Chadli Benjedid

Morocco will be able to tap gas for own needs and make savings in an energy bill of almost \$10 million a year.

Algeria, one of the world's largest natural gas producers, is keen to find more markets to lessen its dependence on income from oil sales. In 1988, 95 per cent of its foreign exchange earnings came from hydrocarbon exports.

Iran rejected any preconditions

UNited NATIONS (AP) — The Security Council Wednesday called on Iran and Iraq to withdraw their troops to the border and release all prisoners of war, and it authorised U.N. peacekeepers to keep monitoring the Gulf war.

The 15-member council voted unanimously to call upon the two states to "immediately implement Security Council resolution 598," passed in 1987, which demands a ceasefire, withdrawal, prisoner exchange and peace talks.

The resolution passed by the council also extended through Sept. 30 the mandate of the U.N.-Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIOMG) of 350 peacekeepers, who have monitored the fragile ceasefire that fell over the 1,180-kilometre battlefield last Aug. 20.

Peace talks that opened in Geneva five days later immediately deadlocked over Iraq's demand that Iran consent to allow the dredging of the Shatt Al Arab waterway forming the southern border between their countries.

Iran rejected any preconditions

Arabs seek U.N. session

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Arab group of states called Wednesday for a meeting of the Security Council to consider the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. The move, announced by U.N. spokeswoman Nadia Younes, came after the Palestine observer mission here said in a letter to the council that the "dangerous situation requires official consideration by the Security Council." Younes said no date had been set for the council meeting. Nasser Al Khatib, acting head of the Palestine mission, told reporters Tuesday that the council should adopt a resolution condemning Israel for its policies and practices." A U.S. State Department report on human rights issued this week mentioned "a substantial increase in human rights violations" by the Israelis, mostly involving the uprising. Kidwa told reporters he welcomed the American report but this had not motivated the Palestinian move as the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee already had decided to ask for Security Council measures. Council members have been weighing an earlier Palestinian request for action for several days.

Joint higher committee meets today

## Jordan, Syria aim to boost cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee opens a meeting in Amman Thursday under the co-chairmanship of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and his Syrian counterpart, Mahmoud Al Zoubi.

The committee will hold three working sessions designed to bolster bilateral cooperation in economy, agricultural, trade, transport and irrigation, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

The agency said that the Jordanian side to the talks would include the ministers of education, foreign affairs, information, public works and housing, industry and trade, and supply as well as the Central Bank governor and a group of specialists.

The Syrian side will include the ministers of economic affairs, agrarian reform, transport, economy and foreign trade, industry and foreign affairs.

Jordan and Syria are undertaking joint economic endeavours and serving the cause of economic integration between Arab countries. Among these ventures are the Industrial Free Zone Corporation, the Jordan-Syrian Industry Company, the Jordan-Syrian Land Transport Company and Jordao-Syrian Maritime Company.

In 1985, Jordan supplied southeast Syria with electricity with the implementation of an agreement signed by the two countries in 1976. The two countries also signed an agreement in 1987 for



Zaid Rifai

the establishment of Al Wahdah Dam on the Yarmouk River to harness water for irrigating 35,000 dunums of land in the Jordan Valley and 5,000 dunums of land in the high regions. The dam project will generate electricity estimated at 18,800 megawatts annually, of which 75 per cent will benefit Syria, and the reservoir will supply nearly 50 million cubic metres of water to the Amman area.

Jordan and Syria are linked by two days, preparing for the higher committee meeting.

The preparatory committee Wednesday discussed in detail the Jordan-Syria Industry Company and its affiliates.

It also discussed Syrian-Jordanian cooperation in oil and gas and an exchange of expertise and studies in this field.

The Jordanian side was led by Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary General Mohammad Saqaf and the Syrian side was led by Mohammad Sharif, governor of the Syrian Central Bank.

Saqaf and Sharif later briefed Minister of Industry and Trade Hamdi Tahha on the discussions.



Mahmoud Al Zoubi

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## 4 more killed amid rising concern over Israeli tactics

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies)

Israeli forces shot dead a Palestinian flag, smashed soldiers' parked cars and blocked roads inside, prisoners battered down doors, stoned guard towers and tried to climb the prison fence, the sources said.

Military police opened fire, killing a prisoner from the West Bank town of Tulkarm and wounding others, they said.

Paramilitary police using clubs and tear-gas battled the relatives and



An Afghan soldier stands guard at a Kabul provision store. Behind the troopers are women awaiting their turn for supplies in the shortage-plagued Afghan capital.

## Safety fears snag Afghan relief airlift

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — An emergency U.N. relief airlift to the battered and hungry Afghan capital of Kabul was stalled because the plane's crew was afraid to fly there, U.N. officials said Wednesday.

The chartered Egypt air plane, packed with 32 tons of emergency supplies, sat on the tarmac at Islamabad airport because the crew decided late Tuesday that security in the besieged Afghan capital was uncertain, one of the U.N. officials explained.

René Albeck, external relations officer with a U.N. assistance programme for returning Afghan war refugees, said "The crew and airline called off the flight, for security reasons."

The Boeing 707, carrying 32 tonnes of milk powder, protein, vegetable oil, medicines and blankets, arrived in Islamabad Monday night.

The Mujahideen rebels, who have been fighting the Soviet-backed government in Kabul for the past 10 years, agreed not to attack U.N. flights into the Afghan capital, in exchange for a promise that U.N. convoys would bring supplies into guerrilla-held regions, officials in Geneva and New York said last week.

"Now we are working on the possibility of having another airline do the job," Albeck said. "We have not dropped the idea of the airlift."

"There's no airlift that can take place today (Wednesday) but we are hoping for an airlift tomorrow," he said.

The supplies "are intended for the most vulnerable groups such as women, children and the elderly," he said.

In Moscow, the TASS news agency quoted the Afghan army high command as threatening a full attack if rebels tried to starve the capital into submission.

## Outcome of Shura gathering crucial for Afghan future

By Michael Battye  
Reuters

ISLAMABAD — Afghan Mujahideen, beset by religious, political and tribal differences, are set to hold their most important meeting, one which they and their friends hope will determine the future of Afghanistan.

From the Afghan mountains, now deep in snow, where they have fought the government army and a big Soviet force close to completing its withdrawal after nine unsuccessful years of war, come the guerrilla commanders.

From Iran come representatives of the guerrillas of the minority Shi'ite sect of Islam based there.

From Europe and the United States come prominent Afghans, including former

ministers, who have long lived in exile.

From Peshawar, the north-western Pakistan city crammed with refugees from a war in which a million people may have been killed, come the leaders of the best known Afghan political groups, an alliance from the majority Sunni sect of Islam.

And from the capital, Kabul, the Mujahideen hope, will come "good Muslims" — people connected with, but not prominent in the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDDA), a group the rebels reject as having no role in a future government.

The tribes of Afghanistan, rarely amicable, will all be there when more than 500 delegates sit down at the consultative council, or Shura, in Rawalpindi near Islamabad

Friday for three days of talks designed to produce an interim government.

"The Shura is the definitive event for the future," a Western diplomat said, "therefore the stakes are very high and the tensions are very high."

"The have to find a minimally acceptable solution, minimally threatening to each other."

### NEWS ANALYSIS

"If they can find an interim government which people can support, it will reduce the possibility of deep divisions in the alliance which could ultimately lead to civil war."

A successful Shura, experts say, would provide a credible negotiating partner in any efforts to persuade the Kabul

government of President Najibullah, who has vowed not to surrender to hand over power.

It should help encourage Afghan soldiers to desert and weaken Kabul's apparent resolve.

Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, in an interview with Reuters Monday, said Afghanistan's future depended on the Shura's success in producing a credible interim government and she backed the Mujahideen exclusion of the PDPA.

It was up to them to decide who should attend, she said. "It's their country. They have fought the war. They have given their lives in the struggle."

**Rift within ranks**

But it is going to be far from

easy. The Shura has already been postponed once because the Iran-based Shi'ites threatened to boycott it unless they were given double the 60 seats offered by the seven-party Sunni alliance based in Peshawar.

Only Monday did the Shi'ites agree to take 80 seats and attend.

To complicate matters, four of the Peshawar seven say they are determined to have the Shura approve an interim government under fundamentalist Ahmad Shah set up last year.

The three more moderate Peshawar parties say they are equally determined that the Ahmad Shah government be replaced by a broader-based and more moderate group.

"There is a real possibility that if it comes down to the wire, the moderates could walk

out," said a Western expert on Afghanistan.

But then, no one can be sure of what will happen when the Shura meets.

Experts say a traditional Afghan meeting is designed to bring together people of stature and although each of the seven Peshawar groups has selected 60 delegates, none can be sure its people will follow the party line.

"People traditionally represent their tribes and their regions, but they also speak for themselves and usually a consensus emerges around good ideas well represented," said one expert who asked not to be identified.

"Whether that will be the way it will work at the Shura, nobody knows," he said. "But a lot of Afghanistan's friends are hoping so."

## DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

AJ Shara's pharmacy ..... 1963/9

ZARQA: Dr. Mufeed Damra ..... (—)

Khalifeh pharmacy ..... 1941/2

CIVIL DEFENCE: Civil Defence Department ..... 61111

Rescue ..... 30341

CIVIL POLICE: Police ..... 101/1

Rescue Police ..... 192/62111/537777

Fire Brigade ..... 6290993

Blood Bank ..... 775121

HIGHWAY POLICE: ..... 843402

Traffic Police ..... 6290991

PUBLIC SECURITY: ..... 656005/65111

Hotel Complaints ..... 605800

Price Complaints ..... 651176

Water and Sewerage Complaints ..... 897467

AMMAN: Al Asema pharmacy ..... 677436

Dr. Yahya Abdal Rahim ..... 736074

Dr. Mahmud Al Awad ..... 612391

Fires pharmacy ..... 661101

Ferdous pharmacy ..... 778236

Al Asema pharmacy ..... 637055

Nairouki pharmacy ..... 623672

Al Salam pharmacy ..... 636730

Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945

Shmeisani pharmacy ..... 637660

IRBD: Dr. Mahmoud Khalil ..... (—)

CHURCHES: Dhuhr ..... 1452

Asr ..... 1749

Maghrib ..... 1837

Isha ..... 1900

SAFETY: ..... 1945

WEATHER: ..... 1950

TELEVISION: ..... 1955

PROGRAMME ONE: ..... 1956

Koran Programme review ..... 1957

Children programme ..... 1958

Local programme ..... 1959

Programme on Jordan ..... 1960

Local programme ..... 1961

"Al-Ahli" ..... 1962

Health programme ..... 1963

Programme review ..... 1964

News in Arabic ..... 1965

Local series ..... 1966

Programme review ..... 1967

News on Islamic art ..... 1968

Armenian Coptic Church Tel. 771337

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775137

St. Ephrem Church Tel. 771751

Amman International Church Tel. 683139

A variety programme ..... 1969

News in French ..... 1970

La Vie En Pastre ..... 1971

News in Hebrew ..... 1972

Varieties ..... 1973

News in Arabic ..... 1974

Bill Cosby Show ..... 1975

Beauty and the Beast ..... 1976

News in English ..... 1977

Feature film: "Rear Window" ..... 1978

PRAYER TIMES: Fajr (Sunrise) Dhuhr (19:59)

BUZZ: ..... 1950

WEATHER: ..... 1951

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

PEACE TIMES: ..... 1952

11:59 ..... Dhuhr

14:52 ..... Asr

17:49 ..... Maghrib

18:37 ..... Isha

SAFETY: ..... 1953

CHURCHES: ..... 1954

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD: ..... 1955

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

Church of the Immaculate Conception Tel. 622366

Anglican Church Tel. 625383

62543

Armenian Coptic Church Tel. 771337

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775137

St. Ephrem Church Tel. 771751

Amman International Church Tel. 683139

A variety programme ..... 1956

News in French ..... 1957

La Vie En Pastre ..... 1958

News in Hebrew ..... 1959

Varieties ..... 1960

News in Arabic ..... 1961

Bill Cosby Show ..... 1962

Beauty and the Beast ..... 1963

News in English ..... 1964

Feature film: "Rear Window" ..... 1965

BUZZ: ..... 1966

WEATHER: ..... 1967

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

PEACE TIMES: ..... 1968

11:59 ..... Dhuhr

14:52 ..... Asr

17:49 ..... Maghrib

18:37 ..... Isha

SAFETY: ..... 1969

CHURCHES: ..... 1970

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD: ..... 1971

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# National News

## Queen Noor visits JUST

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday visited Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) where she toured the new facilities at the university and was briefed on the accomplishments of the different colleges there.

Queen Noor agreed to sponsor a number of awards students at the university.

The president of JUST, Kamel Al-Jouani, announced that the university will establish a "Queen Noor Architecture Award" which will be presented to the best architecture graduate every year.

H.M. Queen Noor

### NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

**PRINCE MOHAMMAD CONDOLES:** His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad has delegated the director of his office to convey his condolences to Al Baqa family on the death of late Hafida Yousif Al-Kawait Al-Baqaa. (Petra)

**CABINET ENDORSES PACT:** The Cabinet has endorsed the exchange of the minutes of understanding with the West German government. The minutes provide for supplying DM 1.3 million in aid to finance Jordan Valley Authority projects. (Petra)

**NEW MAYORS APPOINTED:** The Cabinet Wednesday endorsed the appointment of Nasr Isma'il Qasem as mayor of Irbid Governorate, and Sa'd Mohammad Qudah as mayor of Ajun in Ajloun district. (Petra)

**ODEH, QASEM TO ATTEND RABAT TALKS:** Finance and Customs Minister Hanna Odeh and Central Bank Governor Hussein Al-Qasem will represent Jordan to the four-day 13th annual meeting of the Council of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank which will convene in Rabat on Feb. 20. The conferees will discuss the bank's plans for 1989. (Petra)

**MEDICAL COUNCIL EXAMINATION:** Health Minister Dr. Zuhair Matias Wednesday chaired a meeting of the Jordan Medical Council (JMC). It was agreed, during the meeting, to hold the JMC examination twice a year. (Petra)

**HAJI HASSEN RECEIVES IRAQI AIDE:** Transport and Telecommunications Minister Khalid Al-Haj Hassan Wednesday discussed with Iraqi Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications Undersecretary Khaled Al-Samarrai means for developing transport between the two countries. (Petra)

**ENCOURAGING INVESTMENT:** Industry and Trade Minister Hamdi Al-Tabbas Wednesday chaired a meeting of the Investment Encouragement Committee. The committee discussed means to encourage investment in Jordan. (Petra)

**ASSAD RECEIVES QATARI ENVOY:** Minister of Higher Education Nasseruddin Al-Assad, Wednesday, received Qatari Ambassador in Amman Sheikh Mubarak Ibn Naser Al-Kuwari. During the meeting, they discussed means to bolster cooperation, scientific research, and increasing the number of Jordanian students pursuing studies in Qatar. (Petra)

**HMOUD TO ATTEND GENEVA TALKS:** Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Al-Hmoud will lead the Jordanian delegation to the United Nations Conference on Environment which is scheduled to begin in Switzerland on March 20. The conference will discuss international cooperation dealing with the environment. (Petra)

**NHF HONOURS LATTA:** The Noor Al-Hussein Foundation (NHF) Wednesday honoured David Latta, the British Council's representative in Amman on the occasion of the end of his tour of duty in the country which lasted more than four years. NHF Director General In'am Al-Mutfi delivered a speech expressing the foundation's appreciation for the British Council's assistance to the NHF's programmes, especially the Jubilee School and paid tribute to Mrs. Latta for her useful proposals to promote the Jerash Festival of Art and Culture. (Petra)

**SKI TEAM FOR THE HANDICAPPED:** In accordance with the directives of Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, a ski team comprising mentally retarded students was formed at Nazek Al-Harriri Special Training Centre for the Handicapped. (Petra)

**12 YEARS AGO TODAY:** Today, Feb. 9, 1989, marks the 12th anniversary of the death of the late Queen Alia Al-Hussein. The late Queen died as the result of an airplane accident while fulfilling a duty call in service of the Jordanian people. She is the mother of Her Royal Highness Princess Haya bint Al-Hussein and His Royal Highness Prince Ali ibn Al-Hussein.

## University to organise seminar on pollution

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The University of Jordan will organise a seminar on the pollution of the environment with chemical substances which will open here on Feb. 26.

A university spokesman said that the seminar will discuss subjects related to those substances that could cause cancer and contaminate foodstuff, such as pesticides, and substances which poison the atmosphere and contaminate water.

Also to be discussed is the question of environment pollution by factory waste and factory

and car fumes, the spokesman noted.

He said that the seminar, which will be organised in cooperation with the Goethe Institute, aims to spread awareness among the members of the public about the pollution and means of avoiding its dangers.

Taking part in the three-day seminar will be a group of specialists in the pollution field from West Germany and the University of Jordan, as well as specialists from the Ministry of Agriculture and the Royal Scientific Society.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- \* The Arab book exhibition that includes books on different topics at Yarmouk University.
- \* An exhibition of Korean photo books and handicrafts at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- \* An art exhibition by Paul and Emanuel Girsajerian at Abdul-Hamid Shoman Foundation — 6:00 p.m.
- \* An exhibition of lithographs by French artist Jean-Paul Chambres at the French Cultural Centre.
- \* The Arab Contemporary Artists exhibition at Al-Wasiti Gallery.

### FILMS

- \* A film entitled "The Big Easy" which is shown as part of the American Centre's 1989 film festival at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.
- \* A Spanish film entitled *Tasio* which is shown as part of the European Film Week at the Royal Cultural Centre — Friday 8:00 p.m.
- \* A feature film entitled "On Golden Pond" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.



Lawzi receives outgoing Chinese envoy

Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi Wednesday received China's Ambassador in Amman Zhang Zhen at the end of his tour of duty. During the meeting, Lawzi praised the ambassador's efforts to develop Jordanian-Chinese relations. The talks dealt with cooperation particularly in the field of parliamentary affairs. (Petra photo)

## Expatriates to take most seats at projected private university

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian expatriates will be given the lion's share in the number of seats at the projected private university which is to be established within the Greater Amman region, according to Dr. Seif Al Wadi Al-Rumeih, the general coordinator for the new university.

Nearly 90 per cent of the seats will be assigned for children of Jordanian expatriates, a move that will ensure an inflow of between JD 300 to JD 500 million in foreign currency into Jordan on an annual basis, Rumeih said in a statement published in Sawt Al-Shaab daily.

The university's initial capital is expected to be JD 10 million of

which the expatriates are expected to provide JD 5 million. Rumeih noted.

But, he said, the expatriates have only provided JD 2.3 million so far and these came from those expatriates living and working in Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia.

Rumeih noted that the idea of a private university was endorsed by the Jordanian expatriates conferences held in Amman over the past years.

As soon as the expatriates pay up their expected share the door will be open for registration, and this could take place by the end of the coming month, Rumeih said.

He pointed out that the broadlines for the university's programmes and the essential infrastructure for the new project have already been laid and study could

start by January 1990.

He said that though the university will be located within the Amman region, it could have branches in Zarqa, Irbid and Mafraq.

Rumeih noted that the idea of a private university was endorsed by the Jordanian expatriates conferences held in Amman over the past years.

Registration in the new university, he said, would be in accordance with regulations set by the Ministries of Education and Higher Education but the private university will have to organise entrance examinations for its students.

## 500 Palestinians killed by Israelis since start of uprising, report says

AMMAN (Petra) — Nearly 500 Palestinians were killed and 1,350 others injured since the start of the uprising in the occupied Arab territories, according to a report released Wednesday by the Foreign Ministry's Department of Palestinian Affairs.

The report said that 285 Palestinians have been detained under the occupation laws in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and the Israeli courts issued prison sentences to 156 others — ranging between three to six months

during the past month.

January also witnessed the expulsion of 15 Palestinians and the demolition of 46 Arab homes in the occupied lands, the report added.

The report, which coincided with the start of the uprising's 15th month, said that the Israeli authorities have maintained a policy of confiscating Arab lands and building Jewish settlements.

It said that a total of 3,297 dunums of land in four West Bank villages were seized and

Israeli forces uprooted 17,000 olive trees in five other villages in the area.

Furthermore, the Israeli authorities have continued to impose heavy taxes on merchants, confiscated identity cards and blocked entrances to towns and villages, the report noted.

It said that curfews are constantly being imposed on towns and refugee camps in West Bank and Gaza Strip areas, and people in many areas are forbidden to travel.

## Exports increase 27.5% in first 10 months of '88 compared to '87

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan exported national products worth JD 248 million in the first 10 months of 1988 thus registering 27.5 per cent increase over those of the same period of 1987, according to a statistical bulletin issued by the Department of Statistics Wednesday.

But the bulletin added that the amounts of reexported products in the same period declined by 45.3 per cent over figures given in the first 10 months of 1987 largely because in 1987 an aircraft owned by Royal Jordanian, the national airline, was reexported.

The bulletin said that the total amounts of reexported goods in the first 10 months of 1988 amounted to JD 30.9 million against JD 56.5 million in the same period of the previous year.

The report also revealed that Jordan's total imports of foreign commodities between January and October 1988 amounted to JD 787.1 million against JD 704.8 million in the previous year thus registering an increase of 11.7 per cent.

The bulletin said Jordan exported JD 31.7 million worth of national products to various

countries during October 1988, compared with JD 25.5 million in the same month of 1987, thus registering an increase of 24.3 per cent.

It said that reexported products in the same month of 1988 dropped by 41.9 per cent in comparison with those reexported in October 1987.

But the bulletin pointed out that Jordan's imports of foreign products during October 1988 amounted to JD 83.9 million compared to JD 91.2 million in the same month of 1987, a decline of nearly eight per cent.

## 19 countries to take part in 1989 Jerash Festival

AMMAN (J.T.) — The 1989 Jerash Festival for Culture and Arts promises to be one of the most exciting and entertaining ever, according to its Higher National Committee which is chaired by Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The two-week event will be held from July 5 to July 20.

This year's festivities, which will feature performers from 19 countries, will flow throughout the ancient city's Greco-Roman theatres.

Among the troupes gracing the 1989 agenda will be the 66 member Leningrad State Ballet Company, making its Jerash debut. The Ballet de Nord will also perform, thus offering the audience a chance to appreciate the flavour of both East and West in this classical art form.

Sweden's contribution will be from Linkoping University. Its Male Voice Choir will present a varied repertoire to appeal to all tastes.

The United States will send two companies this year. "Up with People," which made such a hit with audience in 1984, has

been asked to return by popular acclaim. Additionally, the "Dimensions," a modern dance company, will present both traditional African dances and American contemporary choreography.

Performing groups will also come from the United Kingdom, Japan, Spain, Cyprus, Austria and Indonesia.

Artists from Arab nations will

play an integral role in the 1989 festival.

Troupes and individuals from Egypt, Tunisia, Sudan, the United Arab Emirates, Morocco and Lebanon will give performances indigenous to their countries.

Among the individual artists of note who will appear in Samira Said of Morocco, who will make her Jerash debut with two performances.



Egyptian national folk troupe performs during 1989 Jerash Festival

## Prime Ministry instructs departments to confine official travel to RJ

AMMAN (Petra) — A communiqué issued by the Prime Ministry Wednesday instructed all government departments to arrange for officials travelling abroad on official business to fly Royal Jordanian (RJ).

The communiqué referred to earlier official statements to the effect and said that all employees of government departments, public institutions, municipalities and companies in which the government participates as well as specialists who are invited here on business at government expense

which draw up contracts with the government to carry out projects, should arrange for their personnel and their cargo to fly via RJ, and this should be explicitly stated in contracts drawn up between the public sector and the other parties.

The communiqué listed the instructions as follows:

1. Government employees and foreign experts travelling at the government's expense, and purchases associated with public sector departments should be carried on board RJ.

RJ should arrange for officials to travel on other airlines only when RJ has no flights to the required destination, or if the dates between the start and end of the official trip exceeds 48 hours.

RJ should ensure the shipment of purchases for public sector departments on board its planes or other airlines if need be and for the lowest possible cost.

Violators of the law will have to bear the cost of tickets and the shipment fares. Other airlines could be accepted for travel if sources other than the treasury or public organisations are footing the bill, and when these sources insist on a special arrangement

for particular reasons.

Other airlines could be accepted for travel or shipment if arrangements are done in this matter by RJ, either because no seats are available on board RJ planes or if travel is done to destinations not serviced by the national airline company.

2. Royal Jordanian should arrange for officials to travel on the shortest possible routes and for the least possible cost to reduce expenses.

RJ should arrange for officials to travel on other airlines only when RJ has no flights to the required destination, or if the dates between the start and end of the official trip exceeds 48 hours.

RJ should ensure the shipment of purchases for public sector departments on board its planes or other airlines if need be and for the lowest possible cost.

Violators of the law will have to bear the cost of tickets and the shipment fares. Other airlines could be accepted for travel if sources other than the treasury or public organisations are footing the bill, and when these sources insist on a special arrangement

## Spanish envoy praises Jordan's efforts to promote Mideast peace

AMMAN (Petra) — Spain highly appreciates the role played by Jordan under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein in promoting the peace process in the Middle East, Spanish Ambassador to Jordan Ramon Armengol said Wednesday.

The Spanish kingdom supports Jordan's efforts, which it considers as one of the most significant elements that helped to bring the Palestine question to the top of priorities for the international community, the ambassador said in an exclusive interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Armengol said King Hussein has displayed a great deal of courage, wisdom and far-sightedness by severing links with the West Bank, "a move that was behind the significant developments."

"Israel's rejection of peace bids and its resort to force to stifle the Palestinian people's aspirations for freedom can not achieve the aspired peace," the ambassador noted.

Education unit which produces simple laboratory equipment to be used in schools.

The meeting, which opened

here Monday, was organised by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's (UNESCO) regional office.

## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION Tender Announcement

The contractors who had been qualified previously for the Seventh Education Project and willing to participate in the following bid are requested to get bid documents from the Projects and Buildings Directorate, Ministry of Education from Feb. 11, 1989 with the following conditions:

- A. The Seventh Education Project is partially financed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Price JD 125 Bond JD 7000

- B. Description of Tender

1. Tender No. 5/D/89 Construction of school buildings in Al-Zahrah Area 4300 sq.m.

125 7000

## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation

Established 1975

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## No more fast bucks

**THE LEAST** that one can say in describing the decision of the government to close down all money-exchange firms is simple: it is timely and much welcomed. Needless to say, the biggest gainers from this momentous decision is the Jordanian people, from all walks of life, who have been abused so much and for so long by greedy moneychangers. It is well known that the exchange rate of the Jordanian dinar has been a victim of abuse of the first order and exploitation by forces hostile to Jordan's national interest and security and which seek to undermine faith and trust in the Kingdom's economy and its fiscal policies. It is obvious to all concerned that the Jordanian dinar is now undervalued to an exaggerated extent, and that moneychangers, whether deliberately or recklessly, unfortunately played a role in the course of events that led to such undervaluation.

It was, therefore, very timely that the government moved to counter the vicious assault on the dinar and help restore the degree of confidence that the Jordanian currency deserves. In the final analysis, the whole of Jordan, particularly the citizen with average income, is the beneficiary of this corrective course of action. For, now it is possible once again for any Jordanian citizen with honest intentions and lawful purposes to acquire foreign currency of any kind from any Jordanian bank at the official rate, which also happens to be the appropriate market price.

Lest it be forgotten, it has dawned on Jordanians that enemies of Jordan, whether directly or acting through proxies, are waging premeditated attacks on Jordan, especially the Kingdom's economy and monetary standing. Fortunately, however, our country is strong in its purpose and dedicated in its mission and institutions to withstand all such attacks. The welcome and popular support extended to Wednesday's government decision to plug the remaining channel that was willy nilly instrumental in bleeding the country of hard currency are a resounding testimony of the wisdom and justification behind the move. Pretty soon, all those who wagered on the continuous decline of the dinar will discover that their reckless, devious prophecies of doom were way out of place and that it would have been wiser to have placed confidence in the strength of the dinar as prescribed by the banking system of the Kingdom rather than on moneychangers whose only motivation is perhaps to earn a fast buck at the expense of Jordan and its people.

## JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

A STATEMENT of condemnation of Israel's atrocities in the occupied Arab territories by the U.S. State Department is the theme of an editorial in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Wednesday. The fact that the U.S. State Department report condemns Israel's actions, said the paper, is an indication that Washington has begun to look objectively towards the developments in the Middle East. The report refers to Israeli troops' killing of Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails, and the inhuman treatment of Arab citizens and other actions, the paper said. The report came at a time when Israel is trying to mar the reputation of the PLO, urging Washington to stop its dialogue with the organisation claiming that it had reverted to acts of terrorism, the paper noted. Washington's condemnation of Israel's atrocities is a source of satisfaction but it should be said that this American position has not yet reached the required minimum positive level, since condemnation is not enough, and can by no means serve as a deterrent for Israel, the paper added. It said that Washington ought now to reconsider its stand at the U.N. Security Council where it used to cast a veto against resolutions that would have condemned Israeli actions, allowing the Jewish state to escape sanctions for its crimes. Washington, the paper added, should also take speedy measures to convene an international conference to achieve peace in the Middle East.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily comments on current Israeli attempts in Washington to force the United States to halt its dialogue with the PLO, claiming that the organisation continues to carry out terrorist actions. The writer, Abdal Rahim Ousari, brings to mind an instance at the start of the Reagan administration when the president appointed George Shultz to serve as secretary of state, and says that Israel then launched an attack on Shultz accusing him of being biased towards the Arabs, thus forcing him to take open and hostile attitudes against the Arab Nation throughout the duration of the Reagan mandate in the White House. The writer says that world Zionism is now trying to play the same game by claiming that the PLO is a terrorist organisation and demanding that the U.S. stop its dialogue with it. The Israelis and the Zionists leaders hope that Washington would stop dealing with the PLO and so stop all negotiations that can lead to a settlement. Israel accuses the PLO of sending resistances across the border with Lebanon to fight Israel and of inciting the Palestinians to maintain their uprising, something with which it is trying to convince the Americans as being a terrorist action, the writer adds. He says that through all these attempts Israel can by no means remove the picture from the minds of the world that it is the Jewish state which is committing all forms of terrorism against humanity.

Al Dusun daily wrote on the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab lands which is entering its 15th month, and which is growing in intensity every day. The paper said that the past 14 months witnessed a heroic struggle on the part of the freedom fighters who are trying to end Israel's occupation of Arab land, and witnessed huge sacrifices in the course of the struggle. No one had ever believed that the uprising will last so far and continue unabated in view of Israel's military machinery and the Zionist atrocities exercised against the defenceless population, the paper noted. It said that the Palestinians have stood firm in the face of the inhuman practices and the criminal actions, their revolt has gained further momentum over the past months, the paper added. There is no doubt, the paper concluded, that the uprising will eventually achieve its objectives through more sacrifice and further determination and resolve.

MOSCOW IN WINTER is a grim place. Icy rain and snow peat down on pavements that seem never free of puddles even in this, the mildest winter on record. Despite perestroika the face of the city has not changed since my last visit two years ago, when it struck me as curiously unaltered in a decade's absence.

Today the stores are emptier than ever; the concept of service has not yet reached the fatherland of socialism. It remains a mystery how a people of such apparent lassitude expanded in just for centuries from a trackless plain surrounding Moscow to the Elbe in the West and to Vladivostok on the Pacific, a distance of 6,000 miles; how they achieved superpower status and kept the world in thrall for the better part of this century.

And yet it has been that way throughout history. Russia's peculiar backwardness has been noted by all observers, only to be belied by extraordinary achievements brought about in a sudden coalescence of energy, discipline and heroism. Russia, Communist or not, marches to its own drummer.

On the invitation of the Soviet government I visited Moscow with former French President Giscard d'Estaing and former Japanese Prime Minister Yasu Nakasone, co-authors with me of a report on East-West relations to be published in April by the Trilateral Commission.

While Russia has not changed visibly since my last visit, the psychological atmosphere has subtly altered. Two years ago the Soviet leadership radiated optimism and confidence, as if reform could be accomplished by changing a few procedures. This time the mood was far more sombre. Perhaps it was the impact of the tragedy in Armenia; perhaps a sudden sense that time for Gorbachev's reforms is running out. Gorbachev appeared less ebullient, more reflective — actually more thoughtful than on earlier occasions, and, as far as I was concerned, more attractive. Clearly perestroika has come up against the intractability of its own system. The question has boiled down to whether existing Soviet institutions are compatible with modernisation.

One reason is that a planned economy knows no accountability. The network of administrators has a vested interest in concluding non-aggression pacts among themselves. While theory postulates a central plan, reality

produces collusion among managers, planners and ministries, each with incentives to underestimate their capacity and inflate their achievements to protect themselves against blame for failure. Attempted administrative changes therefore tend to collapse beneath the dead weight of the entrenched status quo, while attempted political changes are muffled by an army of administrators and party officials.

The country clearly needs a new managerial class capable of getting a grip on the costs of production and of establishing realistic prices for goods. Since 25 per cent of the national budget goes to subsidise prices — an official estimate almost certainly too low — an objective yardstick for efficiency is absent. Because the marketplace does not allocate goods, they are allocated by administrative fiat or corruption or black markets.

Soviet leaders recognise that they must introduce a system of incentives and that they cannot remain a world power so long as their economy lags in international competition. But outside Gorbachev's own circle the Soviet system has no organised power group to support the needed reforms.

Gorbachev may tell horrors stories of tens of thousands of pairs of Soviet shoes rotting in warehouses because they are of such poor quality nobody wants to buy them even in a country of chronic shortages. But the Communist Party as an institution cannot possibly have its heart in dismantling its own supervisory role. Nor is the governmental machinery likely to welcome a reduction of its administrative dominance.

The group most apt to understand the need for reform is the secret police, because its job requires it to take the measure of the outside world. But its enthusiasm will stop at the point where reform undermines civil discipline. And the military establishment will favour modernisation only so long as it does not have to pay for it by too sharp a reduction in the armed forces.

Gorbachev's courageous assaults on existing institutions, moreover, exact a psychological and political cost. Some weeks ago a young Russian visitor remarked to me plaintively about the public attacks on all Soviet leaders since Lenin: "This suggests that every Soviet citizen over 70 has wasted his life." The eruption of nationalistic passions

from the Baltic states to Central Asia shows that to some extent glasnost — democratisation — clashes with perestroika — economic reform.

No wonder that Gorbachev grows almost wistful when he contemplates his prospects. "At any rate," he told our delegation, "things will never be the same again in the Soviet Union." This would be a modest result for so Herculean a task.

The decisive changes in the economic management of the Soviet system await the consolidation of Gorbachev's power. And for him this year will be decisive.

**"Political and economic change cannot be carried out under conditions of international tension; the Soviet leadership is under pressure to husband the time and energy it devotes to foreign affairs."**

Gorbachev is in fact accumulating unprecedented personal power — in constitutional terms exceeding even that of Stalin. Heretofore the highest Soviet rank has been that of general secretary of the Communist Party, which has dominated governmental, economic and military life through a system of parallel hierarchies. But Gorbachev has no intention of giving the major neighbouring countries — China, Japan, India, Western Europe — for the first time the major group most in need of it. He therefore has endowed the heretofore ceremonial office of president with real, perhaps even dominant, powers.

The new Supreme Soviet, a body emerging from a complex electoral process dominated by Gorbachev, elects the president and will be in permanent session in order to discourage party coups. The president is guaranteed a five-year term and controls foreign and security policy. This domination finds expression in the personalities of Anatoly Dobrynin and Marshal Sergei F. Akhromeyev, who serve as foreign and defence advisers to Gorbachev as president while the heretofore all-powerful equivalent Communist Central Committee, a body immune to sentimental appeals. They will insist on a settlement of the issues of most concern to them.

Europe is more vulnerable. Its domestic politics lends itself to seduction by changes in the international climate; the division of Germany gives the Soviets a carrots for stimulating German

of them. At that point — within a year — time will start running out for perestroika; Gorbachev will have to deliver on his economic reform programme.

Such political and economic change cannot be carried out under conditions of international tension; the Soviet leadership is under pressure to husband the time and energy it devotes to foreign affairs.

It is therefore unnecessary to debate the issue of whether there has been a basic conversion of the Soviet leadership or to gear one's policy entirely toward one particular Soviet leader. Domestic conditions impose a respite on

nationalism. Many recent Soviet moves can be interpreted as attempts to harness European economic assistance while reducing its military capacity with a subtle assault on NATO's cohesion. But in the end, unless Western leaders abdicate their responsibility, such a policy will either run into the sand or prove too dangerous.

Whether shortsightedness

European leaders commit in the pursuit of domestic politics, they will refuse to trade American protection for Soviet good will, especially if America conducts a coherent Atlantic policy. And a neutralised Germany — were it achievable — would present growing problems for the Soviet Union since Germany's unfulfilled aspirations are all in the East. Thus the Soviet Union — if it is realistic — is condemned by circumstances to seek a realistic accommodation, provided always that the West is able to give a concrete content to its concept of peace through a series of precise political arrangements.

Were foreign policy a science and not an art, this is what would happen. But it remains to be seen whether Americans can be brought to see foreign policy in terms of equilibrium rather than as a struggle between good and evil, or whether Russia can abandon its historic expansionism. Americans have always sought to punish the wicked, but also to redeem them by conversion. This is why former President Reagan went from belligerent anti-communism to the reiteration of the change of heart of the Soviet leadership as the principal assurance of a peaceful future. Such an approach neglects the realities of power, ambition and national interest.

On the Soviet side the obstacle to progress is exactly the opposite: it is not rejection of the role of power but an obsession with it. Russian history justifies a fear of foreign invasions. But so long as that fear can be assuaged only by the impotence of neighbouring states and the Soviets' political domination, peace will be at risk.

As for the Western Europeans, they need to face the fact that if they really want a political settlement, they must not tempt the Soviet Union to divide the Western Alliance.

(c) The U.S. must make clear that no scheme involving the complete withdrawal of American forces from Europe can be considered.

(d) The Soviet Union should reflect about the trap in which it now finds itself: it had tied its military security to regimes in Eastern Europe whose instabilities create their own momentum. Is it possible to separate political evolution from military security?

(e) Fifteen years ago attempts to establish global rules of conduct founded over Soviet expansionism and American domestic divisions. Is it possible to resurrect such a dialogue in the new circumstances?

A new American president with a generous spirit and a Soviet leader who has shown a willingness to challenge historic preconceptions now faces a challenge essentially at odds with the missionary bent of America and the expansionist tendency of Russia to advance peace by balancing their national interests — Los Angeles Times.

## He didn't expect Jews to behave this way

By Joshua Brilliant

AZUN, Occupied West Bank —

The sticks and stones which smashed into this Palestinian village on Friday were more an emotional assault than a physical one on the family of Ibrahim Hassan Ali Ahmed.

The hatred behind the missiles hit home hardest for Ahmed. One of his two wives is Jewish. His children are taught Jewish history, Jewish values, and ethnic tolerance. When the settlers from Ariel and Sha'rei Tikva, whose houses he helped build, and whom he felt closer to than just another neighbour, attacked his village, the first house they attacked was his.

I used to visit them," he said. "I talked about them so much to my son; what am I going to tell him if he asks whether these people are the ones who attacked my house? What am I going to say if my son wants to visit his friends Tami or Yishai? That now they are barbarians?"

Hebrew books in Ahmed's home include Yitzhak Levavon's Biblical Stories for Children and a picture encyclopedia he says he

keeps because it tells about the Jews' history.

A family album displays smiling faces of his law, Jews, from Petah Tikva.

The Friday night raid on his village was in reprisal for the stoning by Arabs of two cars earlier that night. One rock crashed through the window of an Ariel family's car, injuring a nine-year-old boy. Another dented a car driven by an elderly resident of Sha'rei Tikva. The attackers escaped but settlers — by their own estimates, several hundred of them — wreaked their vengeance on the village of Azun.

Wielding iron bars and sticks and stones they attacked Ahmed's home first. Ahmed was visiting his sister in Rafah at the time of the raid.

The 36-year-old labourer was bitten as he led this reporter to his 83-year-old father, who had locked himself in his home when the settlers descended.

Ahmed had heard stories about settler attacks elsewhere, but didn't believe them. He did not expect Jews "who cry over the destruction of the Second Temple" to behave this way.

Local accounts say that settlers bearing flags shouted, "Get out of here. This is not your land."

"What are they talking about?" Ibrahim said angrily.

He opened a window and pointed to the villas in Sha'rei Tikva. "Who did the plastering job there? the floors? I did! My father guarded those houses. Some of those buildings rose on my back — and now they tell me to get out!"

His 4½-year-old son, Gharib, wets his pants when he sees soldiers. "I tell him not to be afraid. But what do I say to him now?"

When Ahmed met his Jewish wife M. (she asks not to be identified) 15 years ago she thought he was Jewish. When she found out otherwise, she was already deeply in love. They came together to this village east of Kfar Kassem, and married in an unofficial civil ceremony because she wouldn't convert to Islam. Ahmed clearly respects her Judaism, she said, pulling out a gold Magen David necklace. Some Arab husbands don't let their Jewish wives wear the symbol, but her husband bought her many, she said.

Living here had been good, M. continued. "I thought I had discovered America. It was quiet. I felt like a queen."

Her parents opposed the marriage at first but relented: Ahmed calls them Aba and Ima, and frequently travels to Petah Tikva to take care of his sick father-in-law in hospital.

The attack changed things for Ahmed.

Finally, the West needs to put arms control into a better perspective. What started as an understandable preoccupation with controlling weapons of mass destruction has turned into a cult

bol, but her husband bought her many, she said.

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The attack changed things for Ahmed.

She is afraid for the baby she is expecting in four months time and told her husband she wanted to return to Petah Tikva. "I'm afraid I'll lose the baby," she said.

She is also worried about her baby's future. "What will become of him? How will he be treated?"

Maybe someone from Azun will kill him? He will be a real mess," she said. "Haram — what a pity — she added in Arabic — The Jerusalem Post.

## Egyptians hope Arab League returns to Cairo

By Sara Al Gammaal

Reuter

CAIRO — Ghosts occupy the leather armchairs that were once the seats of power in the Arab World.

The Persian carpets and faded velvet curtains of the Arab League's headquarters building in Cairo look the same as in 1979 when the 22 league members suspended Egypt and broke relations with Cairo in protest at its peace treaty with Israel.

After a decade of silence the ghosts might soon be rubbing shoulders with the real world.

For many Egyptians, a return by Egypt to the league should mean a return of the headquarters to Cairo from Tunis, where the secretariat has been based since 1979. But there are differing views on when this is likely to take place.

"The old, rich furniture is still in the same place it was in 10 years ago," an Egyptian official said. "The only missing thing is

the people who occupied it and in it."

Though other Arab delegates

welcome Egypt's return to the league.



## To be poor and black in S. Africa

By Gill Tudor  
Reuter

JOHANNESBURG — While a few black South Africans are starting to close the economic chasm separating them from their white compatriots, most blacks still live in grinding poverty, a recently-published report says.

The book, by two South Africans, says the racially-polarised gulf between rich and poor is wider in South Africa than in any other country on record.

Pretoria has done away with some of apartheid's more infamous aspects in recent years and often argues that South African blacks are economically better off than other Africans.

But according to "Uprooting poverty, the South African challenge" by economist Francis Wilson and doctor Mamphela Ramphele, nearly two thirds of the country's 25 million blacks still scratch by on less than a basic subsistence income.

"Thousands of South African babies are dying of malnutrition and associated diseases; two million children are growing up stunted for lack of sufficient calories in one of the few countries in the world that exports food," the report says.

"Tens of thousands of men are spending their entire working years as lonely 'labour units' in single-sex hostels whilst their wives and children live generally in great poverty in the overcrowded reserves (tribal homelands)."

The report, the fruit of eight years' planning and research, was written for the second Carnegie Inquiry into poverty and development in Southern Africa under a commission originally set up in the 1930s to

study poverty among whites.

The first inquiry paid little attention to blacks, the authors say, and while poor whites are now a tiny minority, black poverty has remained acute.

The report says the black share of the nation's total income increased from 20 to 25 per cent between 1970 and 1980, while the white share shrank from 71 to 65 per cent.

But massive inequality remains in a country where three quarters of the people are black and whites constitute only 15 per cent of the population. The remainder are mixed-race and of Asian extraction.

Furthermore, the authors say population growth means the absolute number of desperately poor people has probably risen by some two million.

"What seems to have happened is that... inequalities between blacks widened as wealth trickled down to a small but growing middle class, whilst the majority were left far behind," they say.

The report paints a grim picture of widespread hunger, overcrowding and disease, particularly in the South African countryside and in the 10 homelands set up as an important plank in Pretoria's apartheid racial system.

"When your children cry hunger-crying, your heart wants to break. It will be better if they were dead," one black mother is quoted as saying.

Infant mortality — the number of children who die before their first birthday — is between 94 and 124 per 1,000 live black births. For whites, the figure is 12.

The report describes a South Africa where homelands are used as pools of cheap labour and dumping grounds for the unemployed. Unofficial esti-

mates put unemployment at 35 per cent.

"When you are out of a job, you realise that the boss and the government have the power to condemn you to death," the book quotes a migrant worker says.

"If they send you back home... and you realise you can't get a new job, it's a death sentence. The countryside is pushing you into the cities to survive, the cities are pushing you into the countryside to die."

The report has provoked considerable debate inside South Africa, with ample coverage in the press and state-run media.

A radio commentary which voices government views cautiously acknowledged the report but played down many of its criticisms, arguing that Pretoria had strengthened its commitment to black employment, housing, education and welfare.

"South Africa is confronted by precisely the same problems as every other developing country — problems of widespread poverty, rapid population growth and high levels of illiteracy and infant mortality," it said.

But the authors say South Africa is unique both because of the degree of inequality and the extent to which poverty is caused and reinforced by deliberate racial policies.

As examples they cite government restrictions on blacks seeking work outside the homelands, and "forced removals" which have uprooted thousands from their homes in designated white areas in the name of residential apartheid.

"Virtually all the strategies individuals can adopt against poverty involve breaking the law in some way," they say.



Jordanian models dressed in clothes worn in different areas of Jordan

## To dress Arabian

By Mariam M. Shahin  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Arabic music from Morocco in the west to Yemen in the south to Iraq in the east and Syria in the north accompanied an Arab fashion show spectacular in Amman last week.

On show against the backdrop of tantalising music was the private collection of Arab dresses of Hana Saeed Beraudo, drawn from Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Syria, Palestine, the Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Jordan.

The dedicated but selective pursuit of the Amman-based collector was indeed reflected in the range of dresses on display, which was hosted by the Jordanian chapter of the American University of Cairo (AUC) Alumni Club.

In Beraudo's own words, "it has taken me a great deal of time, effort and money to collect these items." But, what were her motivations to start collecting what could be described as some of the best in fashion and tradition from the Arab World — whether in the Mashreq or Maghreb? "First, I wanted to save the designs; second, the idea was to keep them alive as reference material; and third, I wanted to develop them and give the contemporary Arab woman the chance to use them in her different daily activities."

Beraudo pointed out to the audience, mostly members of the AUC Alumni Club and their families and friends, that historically the clothing industry was minimal and spontaneous. The patch work often seen on dresses is one example of spontaneous decoration. It is also an example of how every piece of material is

and the weaving of materials. The materials were subsequently coloured and designed with an eye on protection, comfort, beauty and elegance to the wearer.

Beraudo, who has been collecting Arab dresses and designs for the past 20 years, believes that "clothes give people a distinctive character reflecting their natural identity."

As perhaps everywhere, in the Arab World too people dress according to their natural environment, says Beraudo, who has divided the clothes worn in the Middle East into three main categories — city dresses, country attires and desert clothes.

Explaining further on the categorisation, Beraudo observed that city dwellers change their clothes according to the different times of year and occasions. Their clothes are spun finely and embroidery is an important element in making them as esthetically beautiful as possible. Delicate jewellery is often worn with city dresses. Beraudo points out that "the clothes that city folk wear are more decorative than substantive."

Beraudo's show last Thursday reminded the audience of the wealth and artistic character of traditional dresses of the Arab World. She commented that "in the Middle East as in much of the developing world, people try to imitate the dressing habits of the West and often do so very clumsily. Dressing habits are often exaggerated and seem 'clownish.' People mimic the West as if they had an inferiority complex or a feeling of insecurity. Consequently modern clothing in the developing world often lack artistic character, beauty, originality and authenticity."

Beraudo points out that "unfortunately, when a bedouin or a peasant decides to come to the city, he/she often leaves behind their 'authentic apparel,' and begin to imitate city dwellers to an exaggerated extent. This often leads to a disfigurement and chaos in appearance."

Several factors left their mark on the clothes city people wore; 1) trade and artistic exchange with other countries and cultures; 2) relative economic prosperity and 3) religion and social ethos.

The designs and materials used to make village or country clothing are determined mainly by geographical imperatives, says the collector. The dresses are cut simply and often decoration is minimal and spontaneous. The patch work often seen on dresses is one example of spontaneous decoration. It is also an example of how every piece of material is



A Tunisian shirwal and jacket



A formal dress worn in Iraq and several Gulf countries



The traditional dress of Salt, Jordan

## Japanese bookbinder is would be emperor

By Janet Snyder  
Reuter

TOKYO — If history had turned out differently, 64-year-old bookbinder Takanobu Kumazawa might have been the emperor of Japan.

He is not pressing too hard family's 600-year-old claim to the Chrysanthemum throne for fear of police harassment and rightist violence.

These days, he also refuses to grant interviews for fear that media exposure would harm the marriage prospects of his two daughters.

"I don't want to talk to anybody anymore," Takanobu told Reuters when contacted by telephone. "People create all kinds of stories about us, and I'm fed up with it."

His father, Hiromichi, went to his grave protesting that he was the real son of Heaven instead of Hirohito, who died on Jan. 7 after reigning for 62 years and whose funeral is on Feb. 24.

The family's right to some claim on the throne was acknowledged by none other than Hirohito's own grandfather, Emperor Meiji, but he died soon after recognising the Kumazawa's role in Japan's imperial history.

Now, as Hirohito's lavish funeral approaches, history buffs may be tempted to look back on the record.

The Kumazawa pretenders are at the centre of the only major dynastic schism in Japanese history, from 1336-1392.

In 1336 two rival branches of the imperial family, the northern court and the southern court, simultaneously staked claims to the throne.

They settled the matter with an agreement to take turns, each emperor to be followed by one from the rival branch.

But the northern court, ances-

tors of the current imperial family, reneged on the deal and tried to wipe out the southern court, ancestors of the Kumazawas.

After more than 50 years of battles, two surviving princes of the southern court escaped to Aichi prefecture in central Japan and took the name Kumazawa.

The dynastic dispute rested there for centuries and northern court successors like Hirohito and his son, now emperor, Akihito, have continued to reign.

It took Takanobu's grandfather Taizen, a Buddhist preacher, to stir things up 500 years after the southern court disappeared.

Taizen whipped up so much support for his claim at the turn of the century that in 1911 he even enlisted Emperor Meiji, who ordered history textbooks to note that 1336-92 was the southern court period.

Meiji died before the Kumazawa could establish themselves further.

Taizen died in 1929, but in 1946, his son Hiromichi took his cause to General Douglas MacArthur, then commander of the U.S. occupation forces in Japan.

Dressed in formal Kimono emblazoned with the imperial Chrysanthemum crest, the shaven-headed Hiromichi announced that he was the legitimate heir to the throne.

But MacArthur refused to see him. The decision to keep Hirohito on the throne after the war was made for the sake of Japan's stability and no rival claims were being considered.

Hiromichi, undaunted, went on the stump throughout Japan and drummed up some grassroots support. He died in 1966.

Years of harassment by right-wing extremists have squelched son Takanobu's tentative public-

ity attempts.

One family acquaintance commented on Takanobu's reluctance to go public: "His wife has convinced him that nothing will change. And the rightists can certainly disrupt the fortunes of the family if he persists."

In a rare interview granted before Hirohito's death, the Kyoto journal quoted Takanobu as saying: "The usurpation of the (southern court) is perhaps only one small problem, but it's symbolically important."

"The emperor as symbol of our people should express the truth of our history. If this great position is gained or maintained dishonestly, it sets a damaging precedent for the whole society."

For most Japanese, the "Kumazawa Emperor" is a virtually unknown footnote of history. But there are at least a few supporters.

Japanese mystery writer Jiro Kageyama wrote in a recent magazine article: "Emperor Hirohito is a descendant of the heretic northern dynasty. We should uphold the banner of the legitimacy of the southern dynasty."

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## Features

### An update on ozone

By Dr. Orenstein-Venner  
Oncologist M.D., F.A.A.D.

AMMAN — Less is more when we speak about the ozone layer in the stratosphere? Less ozone translates to more ultraviolet radiation reaching the Earth's surface which means an increase in incidence of skin cancer. In March of 1988, an international panel of scientists led by NASA (National Aerospace and Space Administration) reported that measurable ozone depletion had already occurred. In the last decade, global ozone levels have fallen by approximately 2.5 per cent. Over northern areas such as Alaska and Scandinavia, wintertime losses of ozone reached 6.2 per cent. And in Antarctica, seasonal depletion of more than 50 per cent has occurred.

#### Why is ozone so important?

We know there is a direct link between UVB in sunlight and basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas, the two main types of nonmelanoma skin cancer. And while the relationship of UVB to melanoma is more complex, there is evidence to support that link as well.

The sun emits large amounts of UVA, UVB and CFCs, but only UVB penetrates the ozone layer in the stratosphere to reach the Earth's surface. This layer is the only protective barrier against the damaging rays of the sun.

With the current rate of ozone depletion, increased amounts of UVB radiation will reach the

danger of even more dramatic increases in skin cancer from future depletion of ozone in the absence of international actions, Dr. Longstreth warns. Ultraviolet (UV) radiation will increase, and this will certainly lead to an increase in the occurrence of common skin cancers and will probably affect the incidence of malignant melanoma as well.

Studies predict that for every 1 per cent decrease in stratospheric ozone, there will be a 2-3 per cent increase in UVB. The public reaction in the United States was overwhelming, and between 1974-1978 the use of CFCs in spray cans dropped 60 per cent. In 1978, non-essential aerosol uses of CFCs were banned in the United States, as they were in Canada and Scandinavia. However, these industrial chemicals are still currently used in their non-aerosol capacities.

#### Current incidence

Skin cancer we see today is not a result of the decrease in stratospheric ozone that has already occurred. "It is only within the past few years that a measurable decrease in ozone concentration has been reported," explains Margaret L. Kripke, Ph.D., Professor and Chairman, Department of Immunology, University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Centre, "...it probably has not been present long enough to affect the incidence of skin cancers which are induced over a period of several decades."

#### Montreal Protocol: An International Commitment

It is predicted that the deple-

tion in ozone will reach 40 per cent by the year 2075, if measures are not taken to control the production of CFCs. These actions need to take place at the international level.

As of August 1988, thirty-seven nations have signed the Montreal Protocol, the international treaty designated to reduce the production of CFCs by 50 per cent within 10 years, and to freeze the use of halons. This agreement will take effect Jan. 1, 1989, if ratified by 11 nations representing 2/3 of the world's CFC consumption. Ratifying countries to date: the United States, Canada, Mexico, Norway, Sweden, New Zealand, and Egypt.

#### Significant Reduction

It is expected that ozone concentration will continue to decrease over the next century as a result of previous production of chlorofluorocarbons, even if there is complete compliance with the Montreal Protocol. This is because these chemicals have long atmospheric lifetimes (75-100 years). However, with the ratification of the protocol, measures will be taken to significantly reduce CFCs, thereby reducing the projected increases in skin cancer cases and deaths. With controls of future depletion, the EPA projects that 150 million additional cases and 3 million deaths will be prevented.



Hafida Latia surrounded by her army of helpers



The Lord Mayor and Princess Majda attending one of Hafida Latia's charity functions

### Farewell to a friend

By Huda Lara Manso  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Many of those involved in charity work in Jordan will, no doubt, feel the void created by the departure of Tunisian born Hafida Ben Rajab Latia this week.

Latia, wife of the British Council director, has acquired a reputation for being a selfless and steadfast fund raiser for charitable causes. She has devoted much of her time and energy as well as her home to support worthwhile causes and has personally arranged for and supervised charitable functions. During her stay in Jordan and as a result of her many activities in her capacity as the wife of the director of the British Council as well as her charitable activities, she has met many Jordanians. Not only has she come to love the Jordanian

people and their country, she has also come to feel part of Jordan. Wherever she goes she will keep Jordan in her heart and mind and promote the country's best interests she says.

"In my view Jordan and its people are unforgettable; within two months of arriving here I had become completely absorbed into the life of this country," Mrs. Latia noted. She told the Jordan Times that "wherever one goes he is met with a heartwarming welcome that comes from hundreds of years of practice ... and when one is involved in activities he is listened to politely and sympathetically." She explains that during her four and a half years in Jordan she received unlimited aid in her various charity work.

Within the first three years of her stay she managed to raise JD 18,000 for charitable causes by organising fund raisers, writing letters to various organisations, and most important, through the help of the Jordanian people.

Most of the funds collected were used to building a day care centre, the Mental Health Society, and community school at the Beqaa camp.

Another project which Latia worked on is the establishment of a College for Occupational Therapy. This meant that lots of agreements had to be made by myriads of organisations: A curriculum had to be drawn up which would be recognised and accredited by the Ministry of Higher Education. She added that the General Union for Voluntary Societies (GUVS) had done its best in helping by granting the premises for the college at the Farah Rehabilitation Centre in the Hussein Medical Centre: "This is a great advantage," she said "since the only three occupational therapists in the Kingdom work there, we will have some real expertise on our team."

The motivation behind her charity work, she says, lies in her belief in team work, and cultural diplomacy.

She and her husband have contributed a great deal in creating an atmosphere of friendship and understanding between the people of Jordan and Britain. All this despite the fact that they are not professional diplomats.

The Latias have now been posted to the British Council Headquarters in London. There, Mrs. Latia will continue to raise money for Jordan and keep in touch with the people that have been a help to her.

"I have been happy in this country, it has been unbelievably easy to ask for help, and as a consequence get an army of helpers. What else could one hope for?"

"My special thanks go to Prince Ra'ad and Princess Majda for their continuous support and all the people that have helped me. Jordan to me will always be remembered as the land of the twinkling stars," Mrs. Latia said. "real expertise on our team."

### Haiti gets a shot in the arm

By Robert Walgate

HINCHÉ, Central Haiti — The women were sitting on two long benches in the dark, but that served as a vaccination post, queuing for vaccine for themselves and their children.

In normal times, 40 per cent of the population are more than three hours walk away from any kind of health care. But this was different: it was the last of three unprecedented "vaccination days" in Haiti, when hundreds of vaccination posts had been set up and the free vaccines had arrived.

I sat down by one heavily pregnant woman. "How long did you walk to get here?" I asked through a Creole translator. "An hour," Marie Therese said shyly, smiling and turning away. And why did she come? A volunteer had come to her village, and convinced her it would be good for her and her baby, she said. Had all the women and children in her village come? Yes, I asked another woman, holding her tiny son. "How long she'd taken?" "Three hours," and I'm ill," said Alice Jerome. "The vaccination will make me better," she hoped. Her son had already had three shots earlier. She'd heard about the campaign on the radio.

A local "volunteer," Germain Breard, loud-hailer proudly in hand, was standing nearby. I asked what he'd been doing. "We've been inviting people to come." I started at 4 a.m., two hours before dawn, and I've walked all round." Was he being paid? Mr. Why was he doing it? "This is my area, I want to do something for everyone," he said.

Later in Port-au-Prince, the Haitian capital, Carlos Castillo, representative of the United Nations Children's Fund, UNICEF, said "Haiti had the lowest level of child immunisation in the Americas. It was very sad. But now we

can be happy. It's been a tremendous victory — a miracle."

It was a victory for ordinary people, something very rare in Haiti. In 1988, the country had suffered four governments and two military coups—but doctors, health officials, local volunteers and the general public had completed a nationwide campaign to vaccinate at least 60 per cent children against the main vaccine-preventable disabling and killer diseases.

Now everyone believes that by the early 1990s, the whole of Hispaniola — the island Haiti shares with the Dominican Republic — should be free of polio, and most children should be receiving life-saving shots against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, and some protection against tuberculosis.

The 1988 campaign was the most dramatic demonstration of increasing interest in public health and vaccination in Haiti whose effects are already becoming clear. In 1983, polio vaccine, simply administered as three drops in the mouth, reached no more than 8 per cent of Haitian children, and 63 cases of polio were registered. In 1988, with the help of Rotary International which purchased the vaccine and organised a media campaign to support the programme, only four new cases were discovered.

Amazingly and self-evidently, politicians in this faction-torn and bloody country have accepted a back seat in the campaign. People in Haiti, long exploited by decades of self-serving dictatorship, are suspicious of any organisation, particularly one led by politicians. "The people are very intelligent — they don't want to be used," said Castillo. So when the first, highly politicised vaccination campaign was launched in 1985 by the wife of the then dictator, Baby-Doc Duvalier, it was a flop, reaching only 12 per cent of the children.

In Latin America, in Africa and Asia, engaging the political will, the charisma and the public profile of the presidency, has

been very important for such campaigns — but with massive instability and mistrust the opposition had proved true in Haiti.

But when Duvalier fled the country, and there was some hope of democracy, practical people — including health ministry doctors, World Health Organisation staff, and local members of Rotary International — which is running a worldwide antipolio drive — set out to establish a new, decentralised, popular approach to vaccination.

They focused on children — very much the centre of Haitian society as they are seen as the only innocents in a nation full of mistrust — and set about restructuring the ministry of health, improving relations between the private and public health sectors. They enlisted the help of the media, the Scouts and local organisations working for children, brought in individual churchmen (but avoided the hierarchy of the church, of which ordinary people were suspicious), and found 50,000 volunteers like Germain Breard throughout the country.

Routine work slowly raised the proportion of children vaccinated to 20 per cent, with a higher proportion in the capital, but the piece de resistance was to be three days of national mobilisation, in 1988 with a target of vaccinating 50-60 per cent of children under five.

Despite the low political profile, behind-the-scenes political support was nevertheless essential. The second government of 1988 defined the three vaccination days — for September, November and December. Then there was a coup. Within 24 hours the new health minister had confirmed the campaign dates and was allowing his staff to get on with the work.

Then on the first vaccination day, terror. A band of Tonton Macoutes, members of the old, lawless Presidential guard and one of Haiti's chief tools of oppression and terror, massacred the congregation at the church of St. Jean Bosco in Port-au-Prince as a "protest" at the radical poli-

#### THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN MINISTRY OF WATER AND IRRIGATION JORDAN VALLEY AUTHORITY Advertisement for Prequalification of Contractors to Tender for the North Ghor Conversion Project

The government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has secured a loan for financing the construction of this project from the Japanese Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund.

Applications are invited from: (1) Local Jordanian contractors classified: a) with first grade in both water & sewerage and in electro-mechanical, or b) with first grade in water & sewerage, in joint venture with first grade in electro-mechanical, 2) Japanese contractors, and 3) contractors of all developing countries, as defined in article 1.1. (b) of the Memorandum of Understanding of Unity of Bilateral Development Loans, in accordance with the following conditions:

##### 1. Description of Project-

a) **CIVIL WORKS:** These comprise: 10 turnouts along King Abdullah Canal including sand traps, pumps for pumping stations and gravity turnouts and an operator's dwelling block at each turnout.

##### b) **ELECTRO-MECHANICAL WORKS:**

These include: 29 pumping units, 10 mechanical screens, 10 mechanical trash racks, valving and controls, motor-control centres, outdoor lighting for the areas of the turnouts, and pumping stations and other ancillary electro-mechanical works.

##### c) **Pipeline Networks and Roads:** These include:

— 280 km of pipelines between 100 - 700 mm diameter.

— 48 km new service roads.

— 170 km rehabilitation of existing service roads.

— 2300 farm turnout assemblies

2. Prequalification forms may be obtained from the main offices of Jordan Valley Authority - Jabal Amman, starting Feb. 9, 1989 against a non-refundable fee of JD 100.

3. The present schedule is to make tender documents available to prequalified contractors on May 20, 1989. Construction will require about three and half years.

4. Last date for submission of prequalification form and documentation at the Directorate of Government Tenders/ Ministry of Public Works and Housing, shall be March 8, 1989 at 1:30 p.m.

**Dr. Eng. M. Bani Hani**  
**Secretary General**

Ministry of Water And Irrigation/JVA

Every Saturday night.

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من بناء الشخص الواحد  
برجي الحجز مسبقاً  
(+) ٠٦٠٠٠٥٠٠٥٠



Haiti's first national vaccination campaign, completed last December, was a ray of hope for a long-suffering people. (Photo Credit: Mark Edwards)



## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Saxby sets record in 3,000 m walk

**SYDNEY (R)** — Australian Kerry Saxby set a world best 3,000 metres walk time of 12 minutes 13.75 seconds Wednesday, shaving 0.73 seconds off the mark she clocked on the same track a year ago. Saxby's performance follows the 10,000 metres track walking world record she set in Canberra January 26 of 43:26.12, a time which bettered the mark of 43:52.1 set by China's Chen Yaqing in October 1987.

### Richter wins, E Germans dominate at Nok

**BERLIN (AP)** — Dirk Richter of East Germany defeated Canada's Mark Foris in the 50-metre freestyle competition at the Nok international swim meet Tuesday. East German competitors captured all but two events on the second day of the East Berlin meet. Richter swam the 50 metres in 23.38 seconds, with Foris coming in at 23.49. In one of the closer events, Uwe Dassler of East Germany edged Sweden's Anders Holmertz in the 200-metre freestyle. Dassler posted a time of 1 minute, 50.02 seconds, while Holmertz swam at 1:50.07. Soviet swimmer Sergei Sabolotov captured the 100-metre backstroke in 56.97 seconds.

### Mitch Green arrested

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Former professional boxer Mitch "Blood" Green, best known for losing matches to heavyweight champion Mike Tyson in the ring and on the street, was arrested Tuesday in midtown Manhattan, police said. Green, 32, was arrested for driving with a revoked license. The former boxer was also wanted on a warrant for assault, said a police spokesman, detective Jim Coleman. Police stopped Green for questioning after receiving a report of a suspicious car in the area selling drugs, the detective said. However, there were no drugs or weapons found in the car or on Green, Coleman added. Green gave his license to the officers, who checked it and discovered it had been revoked, Coleman said. Green was arrested twice in four days in September; he was charged with assault for allegedly striking a woman friend on Sept. 25 and was charged with disorderly conduct after being found "ranting and raving" on a street corner in Upper Manhattan on Sept. 21.

### Samaranch joins Nebiolo's party

**ROME (R)** — International Olympics chief Juan Antonio Samaranch Tuesday joined an Italian Athletics Federation (FIDAL) party hosted by Primo Nebiolo, who resigned as president after a series of damaging scandals. The 65-year-old chose the day his resignation took effect to host FIDAL's annual party celebrating the athletics achievements of the past year. Warm applause from sports officials and top athletes greeted Nebiolo, who resigned last month under pressure after nearly 20 years at the helm. He remains president of the International Amateur Athlete Federation (IAAF). Praising Nebiolo's long commitment to sport, International Olympic Committee (IOC) president Samaranch said: "In the last 20 years Italian athletes have achieved excellent results. In a few years time, from a different perspective, greater justice will be afforded to what Nebiolo has done."

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
©1988 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

### WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

**Q.1**—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♦A1043 ♠K ♣AK8742 ♠Q Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

**Q.2**—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♦A1043 ♠5 ♣AKQJ42 ♠93 Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

**Q.3**—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♦KJ ♠A108643 ♠10 ♣A1092 The bidding has proceeded: South West North East I ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass ? What do you bid now?

**Q.4**—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦K6 ♠KQ107 ♠QJ762 ♠A7 The bidding has proceeded: North East South West 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

♦K5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦K3 ♠K10 ♣AQ93 ♠A654 The bidding has proceeded: West North East South 3 ♠ DBL Pass ?

What do you bid now?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♦A6 ♠1098 ♠543 ♠Q743 The bidding has proceeded: West North East South I ♠ Pass 1 ♠ 2 ♠ ? What action do you take?

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♦A6 ♠1098 ♠543 ♠Q743 The bidding has proceeded: West North East South I ♠ Pass 1 ♠ 2 ♠ ? What action do you take?

Look for answers on Monday.

## Yugoslav soccer player denied U.K. work permit

**LONDON (R)** — A dramatic about-turn by English soccer chiefs seems to have come too late for Yugoslav defender Milos Drizic to join first division Southampton.

If emerged Tuesday that Drizic had been refused a work permit by the department of employment after the English Football Association (F.A.) told Southampton the player did not "match up to the very high standards required by us."

Then later in the day a department spokesman said: "We have received a letter from the F.A. to say they have changed their minds and they would now recommend that Drizic stays. But their letter arrived too late."

"We had already rejected him on the basis that his qualifications did not meet our criteria for all foreign footballers wishing to play in this country."

"Normally we expect a player to have made at least 20 full international appearances to

qualify for a work permit."

"We must be certain that a player's skill will enhance the game in this country. As the F.A. originally said he did not have these required skills we had to turn him down."

Drizic has played a B international against Bulgaria and has twice been in the senior squad, but without playing. He now faces having to return home.

Southampton secretary Brian Truscott said: "We're very disappointed, particularly for the

player."

"He's been with us for five weeks and was really looking forward to making his debut."

Southampton agreed a \$450,000 fee for Drizic with Red Belgrade recently a month ago.

A letter from the F.A. to Southampton manager Chris Nicholl said: "While we agree he is a highly accomplished player, he does not match up to the very high standards required by us."

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1989

## YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

— As Charted By The Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Confusion, irritation and congestion may be a dilemma for those who must drive city streets. Expect unexpected changes throughout the day. Keep impulsive behavior in check.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) When your attitude is positive, much can be gained. If you are in the mood to splurge, go ahead and indulge in your desires.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) Superior may be difficult to deal with. Rely on good judgment to keep away from negative or critical responses that you may regret later.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Creative juices flow, and stimulating ideas can be used to advance career goals. Give family members a share in your time.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't overexert yourself and let worry and tension affect your physical well-being. Exercise will promote more restful nights.

**LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) New opportunities appear at the job. A new you is emerging with a balanced sense of self-esteem. You may feel lost trying to help siblings.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Now

that you have the ball rolling, you can let the momentum carry you through with patience. Results will mature and bring future rewards.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Early morning hours may be difficult but the rest of the day will be smooth sailing. A reminder: Luck can be an invitation to take foolish risks.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Being the center of attention may not be your most comfortable style. It is great to be in demand, so enjoy it while you can.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A new way of doing things can be rewarding. Advise superiors of your ideas. Creativity kept secret will remain unknown.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Life is moving along with joy and financial security. A relationship is turning out to be more than you thought it would be.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Be prepared to handle numerous interesting situations. Relax and spend time around the house on enjoyable personal interests.

**PICTURES** (Mar. 21 to April 19) Relationships are in the spotlight. The morning is energetic and spurs a feeling of confidence that draws others to you.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) Intuition is at its best today, especially in the evening. Act on your bunched, and be willing to organize them into action and purpose.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) There is an air of rebelliousness in your nature today. You are not content with the status quo and wish to implement your way.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) You prefer a one-to-one approach today. Working with others may not go well, resulting in irritation. Bend a little.

**LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Act first and think later? You know the results when you do that. Love can cause illness, so be prepared to handle the situation.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Expect to hit some foul balls, but have

faith that you will not strike out. Keep swinging to build continuing results.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You may be admired by a VIP as a result of your harmonious ways.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) There is a strong possibility of receiving a last minute invitation.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A picky-picky VIP may be on your case. Handle criticism with tact. An angry frown won't make matters any better.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Love is with you. Enjoy it and refrain from questioning success. A too-good-to-be-true philosophy carries the seeds of failure.

**PICTURES** (Mar. 21 to April 19) Domestic problems ease. You may be feeling unusually needy. Expect important news about your mate's finances.

**PICTURES** (Mar. 21 to April 19) Mental pressure could make you feel dragged out. Accept a social invitation if offered. You will get a second wind later in the day.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1989

— As Charted By The Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Worries that lack consideration can have negative results. If you find yourself at odds with a friend or loved one, the best angle may be silence. Take an indirect approach.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Relationships are in the spotlight. The morning is energetic and spurs a feeling of confidence that draws others to you.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) Intuition is at its best today, especially in the evening. Act on your bunched, and be willing to organize them into action and purpose.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) There is an air of rebelliousness in your nature today. You are not content with the status quo and wish to implement your way.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) You prefer a one-to-one approach today. Working with others may not go well, resulting in irritation. Bend a little.

**LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Act first and think later? You know the results when you do that. Love can cause illness, so be prepared to handle the situation.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Expect to hit some foul balls, but have

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## Borg back home, suicide attempt denied

**MILAN, Italy (AP)** — Retired Swedish tennis star Bjorn Borg was treated and released from hospital Tuesday after becoming ill following a meal and taking pills to help him sleep, his personal adviser said.

Borg has played a B international against Bulgaria and has twice been in the senior squad, but without playing. He now faces having to return home.

Southampton secretary Brian Truscott said: "We're very disappointed, particularly for the

player."

"He's been with us for five weeks and was really looking forward to making his debut."

Southampton agreed a \$450,000 fee for Drizic with Red Belgrade recently a month ago.

The 32-year-old Borg was rushed by ambulance to the intensive care unit of Milan Polyclinic at about 9 a.m. from the downtown apartment where he has been staying with his Italian fiancee, rock singer Loredana Berté.

Borg was released from the hospital after three hours and returned home by taxi with the 41-year-old entertainer.

"I'm fine, it's all over," Borg told reporters outside the apartment.

In Stockholm, the national news agency TT said Borg's personal adviser Ingmar Alverdal called on his behalf to say that the tennis star became ill after eating at a restaurant.

"Borg felt sick... and took barbiturates to fall asleep," Alverdal was quoted as saying. "But his nausea got worse, and in the morning, on doctors advice, he went to hospital."

After treatment "he returned home and announced from there that he felt perfectly all right," Alverdal said.

Mara Savastano, a friend of the couple, said the singer told her that Borg had suffered from food poisoning.

The Italian news agency ANSA reported, "from initial police investigations, it appears he had been a suicide attempt." But the agency later said it could not be confirmed.

The agency quoted unidentified hospital sources as saying Borg had apparently swallowed about 10 pills, and possibly as many as 60, but said also that he could not be confirmed.

Borg beat Ilie Nastase in the Wimbledon final in 1976 to become the first Scandinavian to win there, and went on to capture the title five consecutive years.

He won the French Open six times, in 1974, 1975, and 1978 through 1981.

However, he never won or made the finals in the Australian Open. He also never won the U.S. Open, losing four times in the finals, in 1976 and 1978 to Jimmy Connors, and in 1980 and 1981 to John McEnroe.

"He (Koeman) is used to playing attacking soccer," said 28-year-old Chovanec. "I am used to

defensive roles so I have to learn to play a more attacking game."

Chovanec, who began his career as a midfielder, is clearly relishing the challenge.

Other clubs in West Germany and Belgium expressed an interest in signing the Sparta Prague player, but Chovanec opted for PSV because he preferred their playing style.

"Soccer in the Netherlands is an attacking game, while Czechs play more defensively," he said. "I like Dutch soccer and wanted to try it out, and it is everybody's dream to play for the European Cup winners," he said.

Chovanec's decision to join

## Svet ends Schneider's run

**VAIL, Colorado (R)** — Mateja Svet of Yugoslavia ended a remarkable winning run by Swiss ace Vreni Schneider when she swooped to victory in the women's slalom at the Alpine skiing world championships Tuesday.

McKinney, who won the combined little last Thursday, held a



New Paraguayan President Andres Rodriguez is embraced by Asuncion's Archbishop Ismael Rolon

## Paraguay coup leader starts purge; Stroessner stays in Brazil

ASUNCION (Agencies) — Coup leader General Andres Rodriguez sought to strengthen his new government by replacing about 30 military officers, including the commanders of the three army corps, with men of his own choice.

Rodriguez deposed longtime president Alfredo Stroessner in a bloody coup Friday, was sworn in as president, dissolved congress and called national elections for May 1.

Stroessner, who had ruled the country for 34 years, has been exiled to Brazil and his name is being expunged from many civic monuments. He said Tuesday that he would spend the rest of his life there.

Leaders of four opposition parties say they need more time to organize for the elections, but government leaders Tuesday rejected such appeals.

"The national constitution sets

the time allowed" to choose a permanent successor to Stroessner, Foreign Minister Luis Maria Argana said. "And we already have given the maximum allowed."

Critics disagreed.

The government "always cites the constitution when it is convenient for them," said Euclides Acevedo, president of the left-leaning Revolutionary Febrerista Party.

The opposition parties, three of which were never recognized by Stroessner and have never participated in national elections, will face the powerful ruling Colorado Party, which has won every Paraguayan election since 1947.

The opposition has demanded participation of all parties in the election, in particular the communists, whom Rodriguez excluded by saying they were not democratic as stipulated by the constitution.

### WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Filipino charged with murder of 7

MANILA (AP) — Murder charges have been filed against a soldier who allegedly killed seven people and wounded nine others when he ran amok after a quarrel with his girlfriend, the Philippine News Agency said Wednesday. Prosecutor Adolfo Alcoseba charged constable Jesus Negro Tuesday with murder and attempted murder in a provincial court in Cebu, 560 kilometers southeast of Manila, the government-run news agency said. The military said Negro, a member of the elite special action force, went on a killing spree last Nov. 30 after he left his girlfriend's home in Tiber village in Cebu. Five people were killed and five others injured in the first volley when Negro fired his semi-automatic rifle at neighbours, it said. Negro hitched a ride on a jeep to nearby Talisay and while enroute opened fire on a group of men, killing two people and wounding four others, it added. Negro was dismissed from the service five days after he surrendered to authorities.

#### Baker to visit all NATO capitals

WASHINGTON (AP) — James Baker's first foreign trip as secretary of state will take him to the capitals of 14 of the 15 U.S. allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in eight days. He does not intend to overlook the 15th country, Iceland, either. Baker will stop at the Keflavik air base there for a brief session with Foreign Minister Steingrur Hermannsson in an airport lounge. Baker will cover a wide range of subjects, including East-West relations and the outlook for arms control, in his meetings from Canada to Turkey, but in visits so brief any substantive discussion obviously will be limited.

#### Soviet police murdered for pistols

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet police are being killed by criminals who want their handguns, which are hard to find in the Soviet Union, the Soviet news agency TASS said Tuesday. Such guns are routinely issued only to police and security officers in the Soviet Union. Soldiers typically are issued weapons only for use in the field, and hunters must pass rigorous inspection before obtaining a rifle. TASS said murders of police officers for their guns had doubled in 1988, although it did not give any numbers. As an example, it said two young policemen in the city of Gorky were shot in the back by criminals wielding sawed-off shotguns who wanted their Makarov pistols. The attack was part of rising wave of violence in the Soviet Union, which until recently claimed to be immune to such events. Crime in general rose five per cent in 1988 and serious crime climbed six per cent, TASS said.

#### Colombia reports drug crackdown

BOGOTA (AP) — Colombian police have destroyed 24 cocaine-processing laboratories in a 12-day operation, and a police official says that the action has severely affected operations by the Medellin drug cartel. The operation involved 150 drug agents backed by four helicopters. An official who helped lead the raids, who declined to be identified by name, said that the sweeps were one of the strongest blows yet against Colombia's narcotics trade and had seriously affected used to process Peruvian and Bolivian coca for export. Medellin cartel members, however, appeared to have received advance information about the police raid and to have taken measures to safeguard some of their operations.

#### Britain to crack down on driving

LONDON (R) — Britain has announced plans to crack down on dangerous and drunken driving by introducing tougher penalties for offenders. Transport Secretary Paul Channon said Tuesday the government planned to overhaul road traffic laws and mete out jail terms of up to five years for motorists who caused death by drunken driving. It will also replace the existing offence of "reckless driving," which is hard to prove in the courts, with a more straightforward "dangerous driving" charge carrying a maximum sentence of two years. Presenting a white paper policy document on road safety, Channon told parliament that more than 5,000 people were killed and 300,000 injured on Britain's roads in 1987. The government plans a tough new driving test which those disqualified for bad driving will have to pass before getting their licences back. Courts in some areas will be able to send drink drivers to special rehabilitation courses, Channon said.

#### \$21m settlement in cremation case

SANTA ANA (R) — A judge Tuesday tentatively approved a \$21-million settlement of lawsuits filed by thousands of people who claim the remains of their relatives were desecrated in group cremations. The settlement would end a legal battle focussing on practices at Harbour Lawn Memorial Park, the largest crematorium in Orange County, south of Los Angeles.

## Japan announces grand amnesty

TOKYO (R) — The Japanese government Wednesday announced an amnesty for 30,000 suspects, defendants and convicts to take effect Feb. 24, the day of Emperor Hirohito's state funeral.

Eleven million people, including 8.5 million traffic law violators, will have various civil rights restored.

Convicts will have prison terms shortened or nullified while defendants will not have to stand trial as a mark of respect for Hirohito, who died Jan. 7 aged 87. Chief Cabinet Secretary Keizo Obuchi told a news conference.

People convicted or charged in violent crimes, corruption and election-law violations are not included in the amnesty, Obuchi said.

Former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka, convicted in 1983 of accepting bribes from the U.S. Lockheed Aircraft Company, will not be eligible for an amnesty despite speculation late last year that he would be included.

"(We) expect that those who will benefit from the amnesty will understand the meaning and strive to contribute to society and the nation after starting a new life," he said.

More than a third of those eligible for amnesty where charged under Japan's aliens registration law, most for not carrying their registration card.

## Korean talks end in acrimony

PANMUNJOM, Korea (Agencies) — Talks aimed at arranging an unprecedented meeting between the prime ministers of North and South Korea came to a halt Wednesday amid a bitter dispute over Seoul's annual war games with U.S. forces.

"It is absurd for us shaking hands with you while ... you are pointing bayonets at our hearts," said chief North Korean delegate Paik Nam-Jun, demanding an end to the military manoeuvres.

Just hours after the talks ended, North Korea announced it would not attend another border meeting scheduled for Friday between members of parliament from Pyongyang and Seoul.

The North Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), monitored in Tokyo, quoted a parliamentary spokesman as saying Friday's session would be postponed until the military exercises were over, probably in April.

Friday's meeting would have been the eighth session of talks aimed at setting up a meeting between the two countries' parliaments.

Both Washington and Seoul say the "Team Spirit" exercise, the largest war games in the

non-communist world, is aimed at improving defensive readiness and will continue until the two Koreas can trust each other.

Pyongyang says the exercise is a rehearsal for an attack on North Korea.

The two Koreas fought a bloody war between 1950 and 1953.

Wednesday's encounter was the first between officials from the two governments since 1985 when representatives met to discuss possible trade links. Those talks ended in a similar way, with the North strongly opposing the annual war games.

The two delegations agreed Wednesday to meet again March 2 for a second round of talks aimed at preparing for the proposed meeting between North Korean Prime Minister Yon Hyung Muk and his South Korean counterpart, Kang Young-Hoon.

Such a meeting would be the

first between the two Koreas' prime ministers since the division of their land 44 years ago and the talks would be the highest-level discussions between the two sides.

Friday's scheduled talks were part of a series aimed at arranging full-scale North-South parliamentary talks on such issues as a non-aggression pact.

North Korea's official Pyongyang radio, monitored in Tokyo, quoted an unnamed North Korean spokesman as saying the North had wanted the question of stopping the exercises put on the talks' agenda, but holding the talks as scheduled now would be difficult because the exercises already had begun.

South Korea's senior delegate, Song Han-Ho, also accused North Korea of being insincere, saying, "their demand for a halt to the exercises seems to be a precondition to dialogue."

Song said the joint exercises, conducted annually since 1976, were defensive in nature. But he said the exercises could be modified if stopped if the leaders of the two Koreas were to meet and resolve their basic differences.

Pyongyang argues the exercises are preparation to invade its territory. U.S. and South Korean officials say they are necessary preparation for a possible North Korean invasion.

At Wednesday's talks, the chief North Korean delegate devoted half of his statement to charges against South Korea and demanded that Seoul stop supporting the publication of pro-North Korea books.

"Indiana Jones, the Last Castle," and "Family Business" won an Oscar at last year's Academy Awards for best supporting actor for his role as a tough street cop in "The Untouchables." Born in Edinburgh, Connery worked as a milkman, truck driver and tracklayer before becoming an actor. His James Bond films began with "Dr. No" in 1962.

## COLUMN

### Connery silenced for a month

LOS ANGELES (R) — Actor Sean Connery, star of seven James Bond films, has successfully undergone throat surgery but he must not talk for a month, his wife said Tuesday. Connery has had a node removed from his vocal chord. Michelle Connery said in a statement issued through a press agent. The actor had to withdraw from a film version of Tom Stoppard's play "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead" because of his throat problem. He was resting comfortably at his home in Los Angeles.

In the past, the exercises have been announced well before they began, usually in early February, but this year a formal announcement was reportedly delayed to help promote dialogue between the two Koreas.

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"Indiana Jones, the Last Castle," and "Family Business" won an Oscar at last year's Academy Awards for best supporting actor for his role as a tough street cop in "The Untouchables." Born in Edinburgh, Connery worked as a milkman, truck driver and tracklayer before becoming an actor. His James Bond films began with "Dr. No" in 1962.

### First balloon flight over Everest planned

LONDON (R) — British mountaineer Chris Bonington said Tuesday he would attempt the first hot-air balloon flight over Mount Everest, which he conquered on foot in 1975. Bonington, 54, plans to hang above the world's highest peak in a 27-metre high balloon with cameraman Mark Jäirold and Swedish balloonist Per Lindstrand in September or October. "The thought of wafting across that mountain in a balloon is superb," Bonington told a news conference. "We could get gusts by the wind into a mountain, but I'm trusting to have the skill to avoid this situation," said Bonington, who has never been in a hot-air balloon. An attempt by Lindstrand, 40, and millionaire pop tycoon Richard Branson to cross the Atlantic in a balloon in 1981 ended when it ditched into the Irish Sea and they had to be rescued. Lindstrand's company has made the £40,000 (\$70,000) balloon and the Everest venture is expected to cost up to £500,000 (\$870,000).

### Bush a grandfather, for the 11th time

WASHINGTON (R) — Ashley Walker Bush, the 11th grandson of President and Barbara Bush, was born Tuesday in a Denver Hospital, the White House announced. The seven-pound, two-ounce baby, the daughter of Neil and Sharon Bush, was described as resting comfortably at Denver's Rose Medical Centre.

### Non-smokers on flights breathe in smoke

CHICAGO (R) — Non-smokers get an unhealthy dose of cigarette smoke even if they sit far from the smoking section of an airplane, researchers said Tuesday. In some cases, particularly in many later-model passenger jets, where half the cabin air is recycled back into the plane, the United States has fabricated stories about Libya in order to justify its own attacks on Libya.

Kikumura complained: "All my telephone conversations with my attorneys were listened into, in violation of the constitution of the United States."

As he spoke he stared at the prosecutor.

In his statement to the court, Kikumura never gave any explanation for his actions.

Prosecutors said the attack was aimed to coincide with the bombing of an American serviceman's club in Naples April 14, 1988 in which five people were killed.

In the interview, Gandhi also said he expected Pakistan under newly elected Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto would abandon efforts to promote Islamic fundamentalism in Afghanistan.

The Indian prime minister, who faces reelection later this year, denied reports India had illegally imported beryllium from West Germany, saying India already had sufficient supplies of the heavy metal.

"India had a fairly large quantity of beryllium and there was no need to smuggle it," he said.

Washington has accused a West German company of exporting beryllium, which can enhance the power of nuclear bombs but which also has peaceful uses, to India in 1984 without the required permission from U.S. authorities.

In the interview, Gandhi also said he expected Pakistan under newly elected Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto would abandon efforts to promote Islamic fundamentalism in Afghanistan.

The results were published in this week's Journal of the American Medical Association. "Seating section was a less important predictor of actual nicotine exposure," Matisson wrote. "This bears out travellers' anecdotal observations that the section in which one sits is often not as important in determining exposure to smoke as is the environment generated by one's neighbour."

The Soviet troops are pulling out rapidly to meet a Feb. 15 deadline for total withdrawal.

Bush administration officials say the Soviet withdrawal is a big victory for the U.S. policy of backing rebels with arms worth an estimated \$2 billion. Soviet pressure on Pakistan, a key U.S. friend that borders Afghanistan, will now almost certainly diminish.

But the officials say U.S. influence on the rebels during the likely struggle between factions to form a new government will be very limited, given the fierce independence of the various guerrilla groups.

"We can't even try to force some kind of solution for the Afghans ... we've got to take our chances," the State Department Middle East expert said.

Connery's wife, actress Linda

## Soviet global leverage seen increasing

By Christopher Hanson  
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Most countries are weakened by military failure, but the Soviet Union is likely to emerge with greater global leverage once its troops have withdrawn from Afghanistan, U.S. foreign policy experts say.

They predict the negative impact of Moscow's setback will not be as severe as that of America's drubbing in Vietnam.

They believe the Soviet image will improve in the West and the Kremlin's influence in the Muslim world will increase once it leaves Afghanistan.

"This is not as embarrassing as the U.S. retreat from Vietnam," said Afghanistan expert Selig Harrison of the private Carnegie Endowment think-

tank, who argued that a multinational Afghan peace accord signed last April was a "fig leaf" allowing Kremlin forces to leave with some dignity.

When the last U.S. officials and troops evacuated Vietnam in 1975, the image was of a world power in retreat.

Television pictures showed U.S.-backed South Vietnamese soldiers clinging desperately to the struts of escaping American helicopters and U.S. diplomats whisked to safety from an embassy roof as the communists closed in.

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A State Department Middle East expert, speaking on condition he not be identified, said Moscow would now be able to improve relations with Arab governments that had bitterly

opposed the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

This might help the Soviet Union play a bigger role in efforts to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict, he said.

The withdrawal was also likely to improve the Soviet image in Western Europe and elsewhere and would help Gorbachev convince the world he was sincere in eschewing adventurism.

On the other hand, a legacy of anti-Soviet bitterness was likely to persist for years in Afghanistan. Some one million Afghans were killed or wounded and five million became refugees during the fighting, according to U.S. estimates.

Soviet forces intervened in Afghanistan and fought a nine-year war against Mujahedeen rebels before agreeing to peace

terms.

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Connery's wife, actress Linda

Byron, 26, to win the English

Byron's victory gave the English